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FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Oliver I. Snapp was at A. & M. College, Miss., November 17 to 19 to discuss recent developments in peach insect control in the South before the annual meeting of the workers of the State Plant Board of Mississippi, and to assist in the organization of fruit insect investigations in Mississippi.

B. A. Porter, of the Vincennes, Ind., laboratory, spoke December 2 at Grand Rapids, Mich., before the Michigan State Horticultural Society, on lubricating-oil emulsion. He also talked before the Indiana Horticultural Society at Indianapolis, December 10, on fruit insect conditions in southern Indiana.

G. F. Mozzette, in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Miami, Fla., has been dispatched by the Federal Horticultural Board to South America for the purpose of investigating fruit conditions and to determine the presence or absence of fruit flies and other injurious insects. He will be in South America approximately three months.

C. H. Alden, who is assisting O. I. Snapp at Fort Valley, Ga., in connection with peach insect investigation recently visited Washington, and has now returned to his permanent headquarters at Fort Valley.

W. W. Yothers, in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Orlando, Fla., spent a few days in Washington and has now returned to his headquarters at Orlando.

A. W. Cressman, assisting H. K. Plank in connection with camphor scale investigations, spent several weeks in Washington on bibliographic work and has now returned to his headquarters at New Orleans.

A. J. Ackerman, H. K. Plank, G. A. Runner, and Dr. B. A. Porter attended the meetings of the American Association of Economic Entomologists and have now returned to their permanent field headquarters.

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Entomologist, in Charge

Field men of this division who attended the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science included N. F. Howard,

Birmingham, Ala., Roy E. Campbell, Alhambra, Calif., D. E. Fink, Riverton, N. J., C. E. Smith, Baton Rouge, La., and W. A. Thomas, Chadbourn, N. C. Mr. Howard presented a paper before the American Association of Economic Entomologists on recent developments in Mexican bean beetle studies and Mr. Campbell presented a paper before the same organization on the celery leaf-tyer in California. Mr. Fink presented two papers before the Entomological Society of America, dealing principally with studies in insect physiology. His first paper was entitled "Metabolism during Embryonic Development of Eggs and Metamorphic Changes of Pupae of Insects;" the second, "Factors in the Hibernation of Leptinotarsa decemlineata."

In addition to attending the meetings, W. A. Thomas consulted office records on the mole-cricket, preparatory to enlarging his investigations on this insect.

C. E. Smith will remain in Washington for a short time to do necessary library work in connection with studies on certain insects as transmitters of plant diseases and to review the literature on Larra analis, a parasite on mole-crickets.

K. L. Cockerham has just submitted his report on the clean-up operations in connection with the campaign for the eradication of the sweet-potato weevil in southern Mississippi, which is being conducted in cooperation with the Mississippi State Plant Board. Owing to the unusually cold winter and the dry season during last summer, the insects have been greatly reduced in numbers, and it is expected that these factors, aided by the intensive clean-up campaign, will greatly reduce the number of infestations of this insect in the Gulf-Coast counties of Mississippi. Mr. Cockerham also reports that the State Board of Agriculture of Alabama has recently enacted regulations covering the campaign in that State for the eradication of the sweet-potato weevil and it has made arrangements to supply certified planting stock to the owners of weevil-infested properties in Mobile County. This action should greatly expedite the work in Alabama.

Prof. R. W. Harned and Clay Lyle, of the Mississippi State Plant Board, and Dr. J. H. Montgomery, of the Florida State Plant Board, visited this office at the time of the scientific meetings just held in Washington for the purpose of discussing arrangements for the campaign to eradicate the sweet-potato weevil in their respective State.

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#### FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Entomologist, in Charge

J. M. Miller and J. C. Evenden reported at Washington the last of December to confer in matters pertaining to official work of the coming season.

J. C. Evenden, Forest Insect Field Station, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, attended the annual meeting of the Western Forestry and Conservation Association, held at Vancouver, B. C., on December 3, 4, and 5, 1924, where he presented a paper relative to the forest insect situation in the western United States. The paper was supplemented with an exhibit of photographic enlargements.

At the request of several lumber companies and turpentine operators an investigation was made by R. A. St. George, November 22 to December 20, to determine the cause of the death of some 70,000,000 feet of pine timber extending over a territory from Alabama to Texas. Most of the dead and dying timber is located in western Texas, centered about Angelina County, but a considerable portion is in Louisiana. It was found that the various species of pine trees (longleaf, shortleaf, loblolly and slash pine) were dying from the combined effects of such agencies as drought, fire and turpentining. Bark beetles, usually of secondary importance (Ips avulsus, I. calligraphus, and I. grandicollis), attacked the trees while their tops were still green. A little later the trees turned brown and died. A preliminary study indicated that probably little summer wood had been added this year and that the drought was the primary cause of the death of the trees. Most of the trees appear to have died within the last three months.

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#### STORED PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. E. A. Back visited the Thomasville, Ga., and Orlando, Fla., laboratories in October.

In the latter part of November Dr. Back was present by invitation at the fumigation of five million cubic feet of space in one of Buffalo's largest establishments.

On December 2 E. A. Vaughan visited Port Saint Joe, Fla., to investigate a most interesting outbreak of Dermestes vulpinus in an establishment producing fish oil and fish scrap.

Dr. E. A. Back gave a talk on insects which attack household goods in storage before the Household Division of the American Warehousemen's Association, at Hotel Drake, Chicago, December 10.

J. C. Hamlin and Curtis Benton, of the Dried Fruit Insect Investigations, at Fresno, Calif., have had an opportunity during the past month to secure valuable data on the effectiveness of HCN fumigation of sacked prunes. Five thousand tons of sacked prunes were fumigated in a modern warehouse.

Mrs. Sibyl S. McDonald has resumed her duties as artist, after a period of absence.

S. E. McClendon, Thomasville, Ga., visited Washington during the past month to confer with this office concerning his work in Georgia.

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#### SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomologist, Acting in Charge

The following members of this Branch of the Bureau visited Washington during the month: W. D. Hunter, T. E. Holloway, A. C. Morgan, M. T. Young, F. F. Bondy, G. L. Smith, W. E. Haley, J. W. Ingram, F. A. Fenton, E. W. Dunnam and Geo. M. Armstrong. Mr. Morgan read a paper entitled "The distribution of an insecticide made visible" before the Association of Economic Entomologists.

F. C. Bishopp, of the Miscellaneous Branch, Insects Injurious to Animals, also visited Washington during the month.

S. E. Crumb is preparing a paper on the various species of armyworms, and in this connection is desirous of securing larvae of Cirphis latiuscula for examination. It is hoped that field agents who are in position to send specimens to Mr. Crumb will do so.

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#### BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

James I. Hambleton, Apiculturist, In Charge

J. I. Hambleton attended the meeting of the Illinois State Beekeepers' Association at Springfield, Ill., December 9, and the meeting of the Michigan State Beekeepers' Association at Lansing, Mich., December 11. Mr. Hambleton also visited Johns Hopkins University on December 27.

Many prominent apicultural workers visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on December 30, the date on which open house was kept for the benefit of those attending the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The various activities of the Laboratory, represented by exhibits, were explained by those in charge. Among the visitors were the following State Entomologists: Prof. C. M. Bentley of Tennessee; Dr. W. E. Britton, of Connecticut; Prof. C. L. Corkins, of Wyoming; and Dr. S. B. Fracker of Wisconsin. Other visitors were as follows: Dr. E. F. Phillips, formerly in charge of this Office but now at Cornell University; G. S. Demuth, also formerly connected with this Office but now Editor of Gleanings in Bee Culture; Prof. J. E. Eckert, of the North Carolina State College of Agriculture; Prof. Bruce Lineburg, of Lake Forest University; Prof. L. M. Bertholf, of Western Maryland University; Prof. H. C. Severin, of the South Dakota State

College; Prof. J. D. Humphrey, of the University of Tennessee; H. L. Fackler, Assistant Entomologist of Tennessee; E. J. Anderson, P. R. Needham, Everett Oertel, and R. L. Parker, all from Cornell University; Ray Hutson, of the New Jersey Experiment Station; and Miss Malitta B. Fischer, Secretary of the Wisconsin Beekeepers' Association.

On December 30, at the instance of Dr. S. B. Fracker, representing the American Honey Producers' League, a conference was held at the Bee Culture Laboratory to consider the desirability and feasibility of a Federal Law, as a feature of a national attempt, advocated by the League, to eradicate American foulbrood.

The meeting of the Apicultural Section of the American Association of Economic Entomologists was exceedingly well attended. In fact, a larger meeting-place would have been desirable. A resolution was unanimously adopted by the apicultural Section commending Doctor Phillips for his services to American Apiculture while connected with this Office.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIONS

(Items from the National Museum, contributed by S. A. Rohwer)

Many entomologists attending the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science took advantage of the opportunity to visit the Division of Insects in the National Museum to observe the methods of preservation of collections and to consult with specialists there. After the entomologists' dinner on Friday, January 2, the Division was opened to visitors, and 100 visiting entomologists availed themselves of the opportunity to see the general conditions at the Museum in connection with the work on insects.

During the meetings of the Association many entomologists visited the Section of the Bureau of Entomology, and some of them spent considerable time consulting with various specialists. Those interested in several orders of insects were Prof. S. W. Bilsing, of Texas, R. H. Bremer and Prof. Lawson, of Kansas, Dr. Harold Heath, of Stanford University, Dr. Doane, of California, Dr. Alfred Emerson, of the University of Pittsburgh, Mr. and Mrs. Meyers, of New Zealand, Dr. William Baerg, of the University of Arkansas, S. W. Bromley and J. C. Pallaster, of the museum at Cleveland, and Paul Needham, C. K. Sibley, and Mrs. M. E. Phillips, of Cornell University.

The following Dipterists spent some time studying parts of the collection: C. W. Johnson, of Boston, James S. Hine, of Columbus, Ohio, H. C. Hallock, of the Japanese Beetle Laboratory, Dr. H. C. Huckett, of Riverhead, L. I., F. M. Hull and R. H. Painter, of the University of Ohio, Miss Irene Dobroscky, of New York, and Mr. Lowry, of New Hampshire University.

The following Lepidopterists spent some time working over material in the collection: Dr. J. McDunnough, of Ottawa, Mr. Engelhardt, of Brooklyn,

J. R. Eyer, of Pennsylvania, Dr. W. T. M. Forbes, of Cornell University, and Harrison M. Tietz, of New York.

Visitors especially interested in Coleoptera were Joe Knull, G. M. Merrill, and Mr. Simms.

At this meeting of the Association more Hemipterists were gathered together than at any other previous meeting, and Dr. C. J. Drake, Mr. Hungerford, Mr. Fracker, Dr. Funkhouser and Mr. H. G. Barber spent some time working on the collection.

The following students interested in Hymenoptera gave some time to material in the collection: Walter Carter, of St. Paul, Minn., Donald Rees, of Cornell University, Harry Smith, of Riverside, Calif., W. P. Hayes, of Urbana, Ill., E. H. Hartley, Syracuse, N. Y., A. M. Vance, Charlottesville, Va., Prof. O. A. Stevens, of North Dakota, Dr. T. H. Frison, of the Illinois State Laboratory, Dr. Richmond, of the Japanese Beetle Laboratory, and Dr. F. E. Lutz, of the American Museum of Natural History. Mr. Hartley has spent considerable time, in connection with Mr. Cushman, working on the Ichneumonidae. Dr. Frison spent some time consulting some of the Ashmead types and made it possible for the specialists on Hymenoptera to examine type material of Ashmead, Weed and Forbes from the collections of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History.

Mr. Smulyan, of the Gipsy Moth Laboratory, spent some time consulting the collection of sawflies and working with Mr. Rohwer.

Miss Ford, of Toronto, Canada, spent a short time studying specimens of Grylloblatta in the collection.

Professor Allee, of the University of Chicago, visited with Mr. Caudell and discussed the disposal of material which Prof. Alles had collected on Barro Colorado Island, in connection with some of his work on ecology.

Dr. Philip Garman, of Connecticut, studied the Odonata of the collection and discussed work on mites with Dr. Ewing.

An illustration of the function of the National Museum as a clearing house for economic entomological activity was furnished in the month of December. From the Government Entomologist of the Federated Malay States a series of specimens was received of a tachinid fly parasitic on a moth which is very injurious to coconut trees. The Entomologist wrote that he had endeavored to secure the identification of these parasites in other places, but without success. The species was identified; being new, it was described by Dr. Aldrich, and arrangements were made for the immediate publication of the description. Within a few days afterward Dr. J. D. Tothill, of the Canadian Entomological staff, passed through Washington on his way to Fiji, where he has been commissioned to spend two years investigating a moth injurious to coconut. Of course his attention was immediately drawn to the parasite of this moth, which appears to be very abundant and beneficial in the Federated Malay States. He will immediately endeavor to introduce the same parasite into Fiji.

Raymond C. Shannon, of the Division of Insects, was married January 3 to Miss Elnora M. Sutherlin.

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Mabel Colcord, Librarian

NEW BOOKS

Antram, C. B.

Butterflies of India... Calcutta and Simla, Thacker, Spink & Co., 1924. 226 p. illus.

Bondar, Gregorio.

Insectivos nocivos e molestias do coqueiro (*Cocos nucifera*) no Brasil. Bahia, Imprensa official do estado, 1922. 111 p.

Brain, C. K.

Host plant index of South African scale insects (Coccidae) with a list of species found on each plant recorded. Annals of the University of Stellenbosch, v. 1, Sec. A, no. 2, p. 1-44, Cape Town, July, 1924.

Brain, C. K.

Preliminary note on the adaptation of certain radio principles to insect investigation work. Annals of the University of Stellenbosch, v. 1, Sec. A, no. 2, p. 45-47, Cape Town, July, 1924.

Comstock, J. H.

An introduction to entomology. . . First complete ed.; 3d ed. of Part I. Ithaca, N. Y., Comstock Pub. Co., 1924. 1044 p. illus. Bibliography, p. 991-1010.

Dengg, Otto.

Praktische koningenzucht auf naturliche grundlage. Leipzig, Verlag von Hientzsch und Koch, 1924. 94 p. illus.

Escherich, Karl.

Die forstinsekten Mitteleuropas -- ein lehr- und handbuch. Bd. 2. Berlin, Verlagsbuchhandlung Paul Parey, 1923. 663 p. illus. Literatur über borkenkafer, p. 641-646.

Ferenczy, Arpad.

The ants of Timothy Thummel... London, J. Cape, ltd., 1924. 320 p., incl. maps, diagrs. Notes, p. 259-320, contain bibliographies.

Forel, Auguste.

Les fourmis de la Suisse... Ed. 2, rev. Chaux-de-Fonds, Le Flambeau, 1920. 333 p. illus.

Fraser, F. C.

... Notes on Indian Odonata in the Pusa collection... Agr. Res. Inst. Pusa, Calcutta, Thacker, Spink & Co.; London, W. Thacker & Co., 1924. p. 69-87. illus. (India. Dept. Agr. Mem. Ent. Ser. vol. VIII, no. 8.)

Hall, W. J.

... The insect pests of citrus trees in Egypt. Cairo, Government press, 1924. 29 p. (Egypt. Ministry of Agr. Tech. & Scientific Serv. Bul. 45.)

Planet, L. M.

Histoire naturelle des longicornes de France... Preface de E. L. Bouvier. Paris, P. Lechevalier, 1924. 386 p. illus., 3 pl. (Encyclopedie entomologique Serie A. II.)

Navarro, Leandro.

Las enfermedades del olivo. Madrid, Calpe, 1923. 176 p. illus. (Biblioteca espanola.)

Winkler, Albert, ed.

Catalogus coleopterorum regionis palaearcticae. Wien, Winkler & Wagner, 1924. Part I.

